

**TOWN OF LA POINTE
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016
4:30pm AT TOWN HALL**

Town Board Planning and Education Meeting/ Workshop

Approved Minutes: as corrected

Town Board Members Present: Jim Patterson, Mike Anderson, John Carlson, Michael Childers, Mike Starck

Staff present: Town Administrator Lisa Potswald, Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne

Public Present: Arnie Nelson of the Harbor Committee

1. Call to Order: at 4:30pm

2. Planning and Discussion on the Following Topics:

Motion to move to agenda item 2. B. Harbor and Dock Expansion discussion, M. Childers/ M. Starck, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. Harbor and Dock Expansion discussion: Arnie Nelson present as the Chair of both the Harbor Committee and the Madeline Island Ferry Line. He gave an overview of the past with Smith Group JJR on the Dock Expansion and that it would be needed to hire them to do survey and drawing work to get permits for the project. Once permits are in place, then funding resources can be obtained to move forward. The cost to Smith Group JJR would be \$25,000. The Ferry Line is moving forward with designing and purchasing a new ferry boat that would need a larger saw tooth on the Town Dock. The permit necessary for the project would be good for three years with the possibility for an extension for two more years. There is a Harbor Designated fund that has a current balance of \$25,000 which would cover the cost. A. Nelson also offered to be the liaison for the Town on the project.

Motion to move back to the agenda, item 2. A, M. Childers/ M. Anderson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

A. Priorities for Town Administrator: Administrator L. Potswald provided a list of goals and additional items as a work plan. Items that remain a priority include completing the Personnel Policy, completing the purchasing and contracting policies and procedures, developing a process and schedule for strategic planning, the rewrite of the Zoning Ordinance, Ashland County Agreements and the Town Dock expansion. There are a number of additional items that L. Potswald will work on when time allows. Discussion included holding off on the Zoning Ordinance until a new Zoning Administrator is hired, so they are part of the process, the Town Plan Commission will also contribute to the effort.

C. Grants for Parks: There are grants available for park projects. L. Potswald is looking into the possibility of acquiring two parcels on Main Street that were owned by M. Mattingly ~~near~~ near the Blue Building. There could be a small pavilion/ picnic area and a bathroom facility there. There are also possibilities for improvements at Joni's Beach. The grant applications are due May 1, 2016.

D. 2016 Under Budget Items: Due to no ice road or Windsled/ Winter Transportation services, as well as the roof replacements for the Fire Hall and the Winter Transportation Building coming in under budget, and an excess of cash on hand, the Town has around \$99,000 to \$189,000 available funds to use. Lengthy discussion on what, if anything, the funds could be used for. Some ideas included hiring a Parks Supervisor (a position that was introduced but not budgeted for), not borrowing for the capital equipment or the roofs, working on building maintenance of Town buildings, putting the money aside for Windsled maintenance, or putting it toward the 2017 budget or 2017 capital equipment. The Town Board will need to decide if they want to borrow money for the roof projects and equipment at the next Regular Town Board Meeting.

E. Capital Equipment and Improvement Plans: L. Potswald and Foreman K. Larsen began walking through the Town buildings and noting items that need maintenance or improvements for the Capital Improvement Plan. They have not yet completed all of the buildings, but there are many small things, but also a few larger projects. Town Mechanic A. Hage is also working on going through and checking on the equipment for the Capital Equipment Plan. Town Board would like L. Potswald, K. Larsen, and A. Hage to continue, but also have the department heads update and prioritize what they think needs to be done to the buildings and equipment in their departments.

F. Strategic Planning: Much of the discussion throughout the meeting started to touch on looking toward the future and getting ideas on the table. Lengthy strategic planning workshop to be saved for another time.

G. Other Items: need to begin to look at future staffing because within the next two years there will be three retirements.

3. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, M. Childers/ J. Carlson, 4 Ayes, 1 Opposed (M. Starck), Motion Carried. Adjourned at 6:00pm

Submitted by Town Clerk, Micaela Montagne.

Approved as corrected (near, not neat), March 8, 2016. M. Montagne, Town Clerk.